AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 4, line 10, to read as follows:

FIGURE 1 is a diagram of an operator control module 100 that is formed in accordance with the present invention. The operator control module 100 includes ~~a clamping~~ an engaging mechanism 120 for fixedly engaging the operator control module 100 to an endoscope shaft 140. In the embodiment shown in FIGURE 1, the engaging mechanism 120 is a rotating locking collar which is designed to be attached to the proximal end of a break-out box 150 of the endoscope shaft 140.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 5, line 14, to read as follows:

As illustrated in FIGURE 1, the ~~engagement portion~~ engaging mechanism 120 is shown to be a rotating locking collar which attaches to the proximal end of a break-out box on the endoscope shaft. Other similar mechanisms may be utilized to attach the operator control module to a rotary union on a fixed feature of the endoscope shaft. In another embodiment, the ~~engagement portion~~ engaging mechanism 120 may instead be formed as a mechanism to clamp itself directly to the endoscope shaft 140. Whatever engagement mechanism is utilized, a key feature of the selectable orientation of the operator control module 100 is its ability to be disengaged and re-engaged from the endoscope shaft 140.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 5, line 22, to read as follows:

Another embodiment of the ~~engagement element~~ engaging mechanism 120 could be a caliper style set of pads that may be manually or remotely opened and closed for engaging the shaft. Another embodiment could be a "C" style clamping device that can be manually or remotely moved toward and away from contact with the endoscope shaft. Yet another embodiment could be a disengaging one-half of a clutch that is built into the operator control module with the other half of the clutch being built into a break-out box or other fixed feature on

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the shaft wherein one-half of the clutch in the operator control module may be manually or remotely moved to engage and disengage the other half of the clutch. Yet another embodiment could be a pressure pad that is mounted to a break-out box or other fixed feature on the shaft that can be manually or remotely moved to engage and disengage.

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